

State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Water Rights

ROBERT L. MORGAN Executive Director

JERRY D. OLDS
State Engineer/Division Director

May 11, 2004

Albert Harmer, President Springville Irrigation Company

Calvin Crandall, President Springville Irrigation District

Alan Ellis, President Mapleton Irrigation Company and District

Marlin E. Boyer 234 West 700 South Springville, Utah 84663

Gentlemen:

I am writing in response to your letter dated March 2, 2004, which was received in our office on April 16, 2004. I have discussed it with Lee Sim, Assistant State Engineer, and Jim Riley, Regional Engineer, who met with you last fall concerning the issues and concerns raised in your letter.

As Mr. Sim and Mr. Riley told you last fall, we are concerned about these challenges. The problem we face is that we are limited in the resources we have available to bring a speedy resolution to your concerns. Utah is in its fifth year of a severe drought, which has resulted in major water distribution challenges throughout the state. My staff's efforts are already thinly spread dealing with a number of key water rights issues in other areas of the state.

However, we do not wish to disregard your request. I can offer that we will look into the water distribution situation in your area and review the water rights involved to determine the extent of the problem. Given the demands on our time and resources, it will take us some time to complete this preliminary investigation. Based upon our findings we would propose to hold a public meeting with the affected water users sometime later in the fall this year.

The purpose of the public meeting would be to present our findings as to the water right problems in the area, outline the distribution implications of those findings, and discuss possible alternatives for resolving the issues, including the appointment of a water commissioner.

We will contact you early in the fall to schedule the meeting. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Lee Sim by phone at (801)538-7380 or by e-mail at LeeSim@utah.gov.

Sincerely,

Jerry D. Olds, P.E. State Engineer

cc:

Lee Sim Jim Riley

